

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
24 July 2003 (24.07.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/059953 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **C07K 16/42**,
19/00, C12N 5/20, A61K 39/395, A61P 31/18

(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP03/00455

(22) International Filing Date: 17 January 2003 (17.01.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
02 001 250.6 17 January 2002 (17.01.2002) EP

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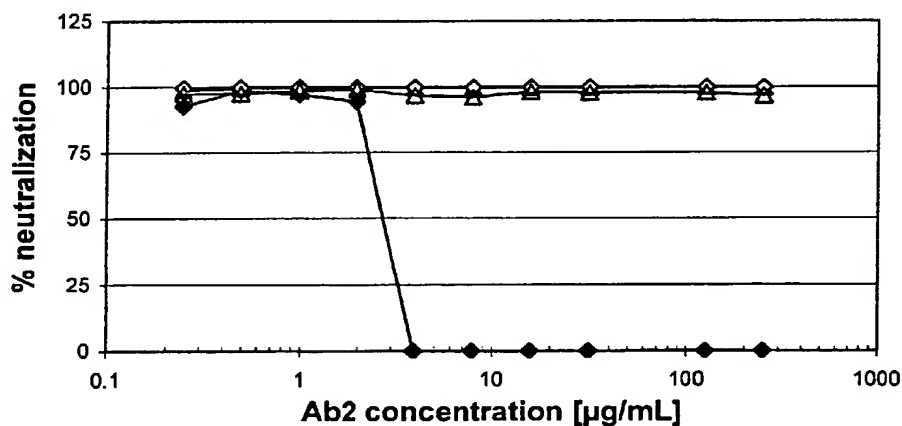
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(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU,
CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH,
GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC,
LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW,
MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE,
SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ,
VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM,
KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),
Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,
ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SI,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: ANTI-IDIOTYPIC ANTIBODY INDUCING HIV-1 NEUTRALIZING ANTIBODIES



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to Ab2-type anti-idiotypic antibodies and fragments thereof which mimic HIV-1 epitopes that are otherwise cryptic to the immune system and which antibodies or fragments thereof are directed against potentially neutralizing anti-HIV-1 antibodies. The invention further relates to a hybridoma cell line 3H6 expressing the anti-idiotypic antibody and to pharmaceutical compositions containing said antibody or fragment thereof. The invention also relates to HIV-1 neutralizing Ab3-type antibodies elicited upon administration of a said Ab2-type anti-idiotypic antibody or fragment thereof and to pharmaceutical compositions containing them. The invention also relates to the use of the present antibodies or fragments thereof as screening tools or as diagnostic or therapeutic agents.